

## Bloomfield Citizen.

WEEKLY JOURNAL

PUBLISHED BY  
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matter.The CITIZEN solicits contributions from  
the general public on any subject—political,  
religious, educational, or social—  
as long as they do not contain any personal  
attack.All communications must be accompanied  
by the writer's name, not necessarily for  
publication, but as an evidence of good will.Advertisements for insertion in the  
current week must be in hand not later than  
Friday noon.

SATURDAY, MARCH 19, 1904.

## THE ISSUE OF THE HOUR.

This town has been thrown into a state of agitation again by the precipitation of a movement to secure the annexation of Bloomfield to Newark. It is proposed to endeavor to have the question of annexation voted on by the people at a special election on Tuesday, April 5. There remains yet two weeks before the election for a general discussion of the question at issue and the columns of the CITIZEN are freely open to all who may desire to express their views, either pro or con, on the subject. In the mass of correspondence published this week the CITIZEN makes no indorsement as yet of any of the sentiments therein expressed. This non-committal attitude is assumed for the express purpose of encouraging full and free discussion. It is realized on our part that this issue of annexation is a matter of most serious import. Public school education is involved and appears to be one of the paramount reasons for dreading annexation.

This perpetual disturbing of public peace and tranquility by the agitation of this question of annexation should be stopped. If it is defeated by popular vote it is an issue that must be kept in abeyance until the greater Newark scheme, which involves the taking in of all of the territory east of the Orange Mountains is ready for consummation. But as some of our citizens have deemed it expedient to urge on the part of Bloomfield a premature step in the direction of the creation of greater Newark, it is incumbent upon them to make known as fully and as widely as possible the reasons that have prompted them to take the action they have taken.

It will be conceded that no private interests should be permitted to stand in the way of a general public benefit, but on the other hand it must be borne in mind that when a score or less of people inaugurate a movement that effects the entire population of the town, the responsibility for giving explicit reasons for such a course is greatly enhanced.

Let those asking information be informed to the fullest extent possible. Let everybody that has anything to say on the subject say it.

## Larger Appropriation Carried.

In Glen Ridge at the school election Tuesday night, there were two appropriation tickets voted for, and this was the only contest. One was for \$11,500 and the other for \$13,000. The latter was by a vote of 66 to 33. The supporters of the low appropriation made the fight with a view to keeping the tax rate down, but the opposition declared that the appropriation of \$13,000 was an absolute necessity. The members of the Board of Education elected were H. Crittenden Harris, William H. Sayre, Jr., and Harry H. Uhler, for three years; Ernest E. Slocom, John B. Phillips and George W. Reynolds, for two years.

## Empire Theatre.

No patron of the Empire Theatre, Newark, will fail to attend the performances of "A Midnight Marriage," in which Florence Sindley is starring, under the direction of Forrester & Mittenthal, next week, March 21. The prominence of the star, as well as the startling sensational situations and climaxes of the play, make this attraction one of unusual prominence. The famous New York subway scene, which, by the way, is unique, in that it will be the first production of this engineering feat, and the Bowery concert hall, are said to be among the most superb scenes and mechanical effects ever exhibited on the stage. Matinees Monday, Wednesday and Saturday.

## Park Choral Union.

The Park Choral Union will render the sacred cantata: "Faith Triumphant, or The Healing of Naaman," in the Park M. E. Church, to-morrow evening. The union will be assisted by Mrs. Nellie Bennett Fugel, soprano, as "Queen of Syria"; Miss Florence Janet Hunt, mezzo-soprano, as "Wife of Naaman"; Miss Ida Hobby, contralto, as "Hebrew Maid"; Mr. Conrad Shears, tenor, as "Ivan"; Mr. Wm. Gordon Gaunt, bass, as "Naaman"; Mr. Robert Warnecke, conductor.

## Letters From the People

A Bridge.  
TO BE GIVEN AWAY  
To Newark,  
Our Historic Town of  
BLOOMFIELD—  
But keep it quiet—

Only a SELECT FEW are to know of it—  
The LOVERS OF THE TOWN,  
The COMMON PEOPLE,  
The TAXPAYERS,

are to fall in and make no objection, but  
quietly permit a few privileged citizens  
to give our town away—and then we  
shall become the proud residents of a  
City and we can have our mail sent to  
us at

NEWARK, N. J.

with Bloomfield Station in the corner,  
and if any one of our citizens with  
political ambition desires the nomination  
for Sheriff, as a resident of Newark,  
no objection can be made; but as a resident  
of Bloomfield that is not possible—

and again, we want a City Hall. We  
shall be privileged to chip in and help  
pay for the one now in course of con-  
struction at Newark (estimated cost of  
\$2,300,000), but we can call it  
OUR NEW CITY HALL. What a de-  
light that will be, and that is not all.

We want to do away with GRADE  
CROSSINGS: that is provided for, as  
we all know the tracks are being  
elevated at Broad street at the D. L. &  
W. crossing—if in Newark, that  
will help us! At any rate, we can help  
pay for it. Estimated cost to Newark,  
\$600,000; and still again, if we have  
sons or daughters in the High school  
we can help the Public Service Corpora-  
tion by sending them over its lines to  
school; and another advantage, we shall  
be represented by an Alderman, per-  
haps two, and what an influence for  
good upon a great City—one or two  
representatives in a board of thirty—  
immense power. WONDERFUL in-  
fluence. Surely the tall can wag the  
dog, and an opportunity of this char-  
acter should not be LOST, and with  
such influence we can take MANY steps  
BACKWARD in Public Improvements.

Our streets, sewers and lighting will  
have IMMEDIATE and UNDIVIDED  
attention. Our Excise Laws, and im-  
mediate supervision of same, of course,  
will be respected! And we need not  
hesitate to predict that as a half-way  
place it will be WONDERFULLY CON-  
VENIENT for many travelers. In re-  
gard to the Water Supply, we have an  
FEW men of BUSINESS CAPACITY,  
INTELLIGENCE and ABILITY, that  
we simply MUST go to Newark to find  
the men needed to help us with this  
momentous question. But that will be  
fair, for we may be able to give  
them a Sheriff if they will only come  
to our help on the Water Contract.

ANEX. OF COURSE we WILL  
ANEX. and why keep it quiet? Let  
ALL Jersey know (from the pierful  
shores of the Hudson to the shady  
banks of the Delaware), that we are  
NOT COMPETENT or CAPABLE to  
manage the affairs of the OLD TOWN;  
that, as the Old Maid said, the RIGHT  
man is not here and we must look ELSE-  
WHERE, even to NEWARK, for HIM.

Sell out? NO, but give the Town AWAY.

WHAT does that matter if we have  
GOOD ROADS now, FINE School  
Buildings and a System of Education  
that CANNOT be EXCELLED? INDI-  
VIDUAL Pride in our Town does NOT  
count. PAST EFFORT and ANTICIP-  
ATED FUTURE ENDEAVOR must  
NOT hinder. Put a tag on and send us  
to NEWARK all wrapped NICELY  
and fixed up BEAUTIFULLY and ask  
to be TAKEN IN. How much these  
TWO words express. ANEX? OF  
COURSE! ANEX.

BUBRAH FOR ANEXATION! Good-  
bye to OLD BLOOMFIELD. ALL HAIL  
to NEWARK.

Bloomfield is contiguous to Newark  
1,200 feet. Bloomfield will be EN-  
TITLED to one, POSSIBLY to two  
Aldermen in a Board of thirty. An-  
nual city expense (Newark), \$6,500,000;  
per capita, \$23.77. Annual town expense  
(Bloomfield), \$150,000; per capita, \$12.64.  
Estimated cost of new city hall in  
Newark \$2,300,000. Estimated cost to  
Newark for track elevation at D. L. &  
W. crossing \$600,000. Just a simple  
lover of OLD BLOOMFIELD.

## Mr. Oakes and the Schools.

TO THE EDITOR OF THE CITIZEN:

SIR: Thomas Oakes gives as one  
reason for going to Newark the expense  
attending the running of our public  
schools. Did he ever stop to consider  
that Newark has one of the most  
expensive systems in the State? The  
Board of Education of that city is con-  
tinually asking for more money to run  
the public schools, and when it is  
voted, instead of using the money for  
what is intended for, up go the  
salaries of all head teachers, and use-  
less and expensive offices are created.

The Superintendent of Public Schools  
of that city is now receiving a salary of  
\$4,800 per year, and the Board of Edu-  
cation has under consideration the matter  
of adding \$1,000 more to it. Besides  
he has a number of assistants in the  
way of clerks, and a score of super-  
visors to do the work for which the  
superintendent is paid. Then, again,  
there is talk of adding \$500 each to the  
head principals, who are already draw-  
ing large salaries.

Some of the papers of Newark have  
had the temerity to come out and  
oppose these advances, and the affair  
has been postponed for the present. A  
more expensive Board of Education  
never conducted the school system of  
that city. It would be well for Mr.  
Oakes to look into these things more  
closely before making the charges he  
did last week at the conclave of some of  
the so-called disaffected citizens. L.

James T. Boyd Council, Junior Order  
of American Mechanics has an enrollment  
of 200 members. At the conclusion  
of the Council meeting Thursday  
night a general discussion of  
the annexation question was indulged  
in. Only two members of the order  
favored annexation, while the over-  
whelming balance was enthusiastic for  
Bloomfield and independence.

## Some Reflections on the Situation.

TO THE EDITOR OF THE CITIZEN:

SIR: As one who attended the meeting  
of the Board of Trade Thursday night,  
I was deeply interested in the proceedings.  
I was much surprised to see the  
members take up the discussion of the  
subject of annexation, when the notice  
of the meeting referred to referendum  
only. However, it may be far better that  
this annexation question be freely dis-  
cussed. As a taxpayer interested in  
town affairs, particularly schools, I was  
not favorably impressed with Mr. Garabrant's  
remarks in favor of annexation to Newark.  
I have two daughters attending our schools—one now in the  
High School, and the other I hope to see  
go through the High School of Bloom-  
field—not that of Newark. I have given  
this matter considerable thought, and  
Mr. Garabrant puts one in mind of crossing  
a bridge before they get to it. This  
town, so far as I am able to learn from  
what I consider reliable authority, is in  
no worse condition financially than all  
the other towns about us: for instance,  
Orange, South Orange, East Orange,  
Glen Ridge, and other places.

It really seems like a disgrace to the  
men of this town to have to admit we  
have not the ability to manage our own  
municipal affairs. This school question is  
an important one. I think, personally,  
that there are too many up-to-date  
methods employed in our course of  
instruction. If some of our manual training,  
cooking, etc., were cut out the results  
would be better when the graduated  
pupils start out to make their own way  
in the world. It seems, however, that  
since it is the rule to have this manual  
training, etc., and that the State requires it  
under certain conditions, that it may  
be the best that we maintain our extra-  
gant up-to-date methods. This being  
so, I am willing to pay my share of taxes,  
and, in fact, more, if necessary,  
rather than have our schools deteriorate,  
and I do not think there was any one at  
the Board of Trade meeting who wants  
to see our schools go below the present  
standard, not even Mr. Garabrant, and I  
wish to present here a few facts not  
generally known:

First—Our school buildings, on an  
average, are superior to the Newark  
buildings; a fact easily proven.  
Second—That the Newark Board of  
Education will NOT maintain a High  
School here in Bloomfield, even if Mayor  
Doremus did lead Mr. Garabrant to think  
so. We must not lose sight of the fact that  
Bloomfield is nearer to the High School  
of Newark than some parts of that city  
from which scholars attend. Why  
should they maintain a High School for  
so few scholars as this town has, when  
they cannot accommodate the children  
of Newark to-day? This is a fact to be  
easily proven, if Mr. Garabrant will only  
investigate further.

Third—It is also well known, and  
easily ascertained, if one watches the  
school news of the Newark papers, that  
POLITICS of the RANKEST KIND prevails  
in the Newark Board of Education, and  
enters into every detail of school  
work, even to the appointment of a  
janitor.

Fourth—That the personal exchange  
of views between parents and teachers,  
which is possible here in this town, is  
almost impossible under the Newark  
school system. My experience shows  
me that this is no thing to look over  
lightly.

Fifth—That the primary and grammar  
grades of Newark have to meet in half-  
day sessions, and be housed in sheet-  
iron buildings, etc. Keep this in mind.  
Newark cannot take care of its own  
children. Where are we coming in?  
Mayor Doremus is a fine gentleman, but  
he is not the whole thing. He has po-  
litical aspirations. Who knows but what  
he will try and advance to be Governor  
of the State? And why should we base  
the belief on what he says that the city  
will do for us better, or even as well, as  
we can do for ourselves?

The argument is used by the annexation-  
ists that Newark has water wasted  
(running over the Macopin dam) and  
that would supply this town and more, and it  
would be a saving of at least \$20,000 to  
Newark, a saving of \$20,000 more on our  
incidental expenses, making a total of  
\$40,000 which Newark would give us the  
benefit of. This sounds real nice from  
a smooth, fluent talker like Mr. Garabrant,  
and we will admit it, keeping in  
mind, however, that on item of teachers  
alone we will pay \$41,000. The same teachers  
in Newark (to maintain schools on the  
present basis) would be paid \$55,000,  
making it necessary for Newark to use  
\$14,000 of this \$40,000 pick-up. And  
where, oh where is our fire protection,  
our police and roads, and other absolute  
necessities, coming in?

It happens that in my school career I  
was a pupil in both Newark and East  
Orange schools, and I know that the East  
Orange school was far better than any of  
three Newark schools I attended. I  
doubt if conditions have changed very  
materially, even if Mayor Doremus says  
Newark schools are as good as Plainfield,  
Montclair, etc. We do not all expect to  
go to the exceptionally good technical  
school Mr. Garabrant refers to.

I notice that Mr. Garabrant referred to  
the necessity of keeping the roads in  
good repair, but he did not say what  
Mayor Doremus says about this matter.

Mr. Garabrant had better drive his team  
around the outskirts of Newark, and then  
come to another meeting and tell us  
what he thinks about them.

Other questions I could say more,  
Mr. Editor, but I think it is the duty of  
every citizen of this town to carefully  
look before he leaps (into Newark to stay).  
My advice to Mr. Garabrant would be to  
think also. See if there is not some  
politics in this game that he is being  
used for. I am no politician, far from it;  
go to New York every day, but I feel  
suspicious from the sentiment and feeling  
I found at the Board of Trade meeting  
Thursday night that there is politics in  
this annexation scheme, and would not  
want to see Mr. Garabrant made a tool  
of for some one else. I have always  
thought well of Mr. Garabrant, although  
he is a stranger to me. W. E. D.

Social Event.  
Mr. Archie Lynch gave a reception at  
his home on Broad street Wednesday  
evening. Games and dancing were  
indulged in, after which refreshments  
were served. Among the guests present  
were the Misses Jessie Duncan from  
Brooklyn, Ida Abey, Cora Wilson,  
Wiflette Baldwin, Carrie Clark, Florence  
Persons and Etta Brown of East Orange,  
The Misses J. S. A. Lehman, William  
Dawkins, F. R. Wilson, Wm. J. Shears,  
Albert Dawkins and John Tideback.

## A Wrong Line of Attack.

One of the arguments in favor of an-  
nexation on which much stress is laid,  
and which, if not closely investigated,

is likely to mislead some people to vote  
for annexation on misrepresented evi-  
dence, is in effect as follows: Through  
the medium of the Essex County Building  
and Loan Association this town is  
being built up with a small and cheap  
class of dwellings, and the tax revenue  
from this class of houses does not meet  
the cost of educating the children that  
the owners of these houses send to the  
public schools, leaving nothing what-  
ever to be applied to other town  
purposes. Perhaps the Watsessing  
district is about the best locality in  
this town to apply this argument. In  
that district the small homes largely  
predominate, and it is likely that in such  
streets as Myrtle street, Willow street,  
Lake street and Orange street are built  
up with houses that do not average over  
\$1,000 in tax valuations, and these  
streets probably have a juvenile popula-  
tion that fills Watsessing school. Now  
the Watsessing school has an enrollment  
of 328 pupils, and taking the per  
capita cost of education here at \$26,  
that school costs to maintain it \$8,448.  
Half of this sum is paid by the State.  
The property-owners in the streets con-  
tributing to the Watsessing school pay  
a much larger sum in taxes than \$4,224,  
so that they pay much more than the  
cost of their school. Myrtle street alone  
probably pays \$1,800 in taxes.

But outside of the house-owners in  
the Watsessing school district there is a  
factor in taxation, and which as a factor  
it does not entail any cost upon the public  
schools. It turns in more than suffi-  
cient revenue to defray the cost to the  
town of maintaining the Watsessing  
school. There are within the bounda-  
ries of the Watsessing school district  
six factories which pay a total tax of  
\$6,574, or more than enough to pay the  
cost to the town of maintaining Wat-  
sessing school.

There is in the same district a large  
amount of unimproved property on  
which taxes are paid, and which is no  
expense to the schools. The effort to  
demonstrate that the Essex County  
Building and Loan Association is a detri-  
ment to the town will not prove accept-  
able, and the annexation people are  
making a mistake in pursuing that line of  
argument.

The Essex County Building and Loan  
Association is an element for good in  
the community. It encourages home  
ownership, and home ownership im-  
proves citizenship. Perhaps the owners  
of these small homes may be indiscreet  
in their zeal to keep up the attendance  
at the public schools, but the zeal is  
pardonable, and the error, if it be one,  
will not be corrected by annexation.

## Advocates of Annexation.

The following is a copy of the adver-  
tisement of the annexation bill and the  
signers to it:

Notice is hereby given that the sub-  
scribers intend to apply to the present  
Legislature of this State for the pass-  
age of a bill, the general object of which  
will be to annex to and make a part of  
the city of Newark, and county of Essex,  
that territory embraced within the  
bounds of the town of Bloomfield, in  
the state of Essex.

Amid Dodd, Thomas Oakes, G. Lee  
Stout, Theodore H. Ward, David G.  
Garabrant, James C. Beach, John A.  
Lawrence, Wm. A. Baldwin, Benjamin  
Haskell, James H. Moore, George E.  
Bedell, Henry P. Dodd, Charles L. Bel-  
ter, Fred Storm, Jr., Joseph Froncipe,  
Hubert J. Ashby, Halsey M. Barrett,  
Thomas Cadmus. Dated March 11, 1904.

PERFECTION  
FOR \$8.00.We are talking about PERFECTION  
GAS WATER HEATERS. They are  
all the name implies.Double copper tube—brass heads—  
water exposed to double fire—no rusty  
water—no odor—quick action. \$8.00  
includes Heater and free connections to  
both gas and water pipes.